

Watchman & Journal.

WEDNESDAY, JULY 31, 1889.

The signs in the political skies point to T. B. Reed of Maine as the speaker of the next house.

AUGUST is favored with two notable anniversaries. Tennyson celebrates his eightieth birthday on the 6th and Dr. Holmes on the 29th.

R. F. PETTIGREW, who went to Dakota from Vermont twenty years ago, is one of the leading candidates for the two senatorial seats from South Dakota.

THE constitutional convention of the new State of Washington adjourned to allow the delegates to attend a clam-bake. The clam is a power in territorial politics.

THE latest in trusts is the proposed organization of a brick trust, with a capital of \$15,000,000. The plan is to buy up the larger concerns and crush the smaller ones.

THE supreme court of New Hampshire has decided that the law requiring a license for the practice of medicine, surgery and dentistry in the state is unconstitutional.

McQUADE, the New York boodler alderman, has been acquitted of the charge of bribery. This ends the prosecution of the notorious "gang," as District Attorney Fellows has given up the chase in despair.

THE Atlanta Constitution sage has been focusing the rays of his massive intellect upon the national university scheme, and discovers that "the whole business smacks of Boston and New England," and also "of centralization and paternalism."

A DELEGATION of laboring men has been sent to the Paris exposition, their mission being to examine everything at the exposition and at other points on the Continent from the standpoint of the working-man. Julian Hawthorne accompanied the party as descriptive editor.

THE New York Christian Advocate very properly objects to using Thanksgiving day exclusively for setting forth the virtues of civil service reform. There are higher topics, and ones more directly adapted to inspire gratitude to God, than the orderly distribution of public trusts.

THE Rhode Island legislature is wrestling with the question of a license law. The republican senate amended the bill, as passed by the democratic house, so as to strengthen its provisions, but the democrats refuse to concur. The result is a deadlock, with prospects of a prolonged struggle.

CHICAGO insists that the world's fair, commemorating the four hundredth anniversary of Columbus' discovery of America, shall be held in that city and not elsewhere. It laughs to scorn New York's claim that the city of the Empire State should be the seat of the great commemoration. New York should, and unquestionably will, be the accepted place.

THE democratic city committee of Boston held an uproarious seance on Monday evening of last week. The leaders of the two factions—Maguire and Cuniff—locked horns in the center of the ring, and for three hours the battle waxed hot. The combatants were not permitted to fight to a finish, as the police interfered, ejected the turbulent mob and turned out the lights.

A CURIOUS case of honor among thieves has come to light in Massachusetts. Burglars entered the house of ex-Governor Long at Hingham, recently, and secured, among other plunder, three ancient silver spoons. These spoons were valued very highly by the governor on account of family associations. The burglars learned of this fact through the newspapers and promptly returned the spoons to his excellency, sending the package by mail.

It is expected that the California delegation will come to the next congress prepared to make urgent demands for government help. The British, through the Canadian Pacific railroad and steamship lines to the East Indies and China, are getting a tight grip upon the coast commerce, and the business men of California are holding urgent conferences over the matter. They want their Australian and Chinese mail lines subsidized, an ocean cable laid to Australia and more war-ships and guns.

THE trunk line association is making an attempt to secure the services of Judge Cooley of the interstate commerce commission. He receives a salary of only \$7,500 as chairman of the commission, while he is offered \$25,000 a year to enter the service of the railroads. As the government can not compete with the railroad combines in the matter of salary, the latter are able

to command the services of the ablest men. Aldace F. Walker graduated from the commission to a \$25,000 chairmanship, and the commission seems to be serving as a training-school for the wealthy railroad combinations.

In view of the probable extension of railroads over many parts of Africa, it is pleasant to learn that the Kong Mountains, set down near the west coast in many old maps, do not exist. They are as fabulous as that range of Mountains of the Moon which in still older atlases extended as a wall across the middle of the continent. The railroads first to be built—the line up the Congo, that from Lake Victoria Nyanza to the east coast, and further south, that from Delagoa Bay to the Transvaal Republic—would not be impeded by the Kong range, but their absence will insure easy grades to the route that will be improved a few years hence and lay open the fertile districts of the upper Niger and the country on its south.

THE New York anarchists are at present in a state of complete anarchy, being badly disturbed by internal dissensions. Richard Braunschweig is severely condemned by his colleague, John Most, for his extremely sanguinary views. Says Most: "If I say to the anarchists, 'We must kill all the capitalists,' Braunschweig cries out, 'Aye, and the wives of the capitalists, too.' Should I at any time say that we ought to kill the capitalists and their wives, he would be sure to lug in their children for slaughter, too. Once I said to an audience that we must have a revolution to purify the world, Braunschweig got up and said that the revolution must begin right then and there. At first Braunschweig was interesting, but after a year or so his harangue palled upon the anarchists. He has no judgment. Mrs. Braunschweig is even worse than he is, and wants to see plenty of blood spilt right away."

THE reported sentence of death passed upon the wife of the Rev. David Heron, Southern Presbyterian missionary to Corea, for simply preaching the gospel, appeared more than doubtful at the first. Still, all will be glad to learn that it is positively contradicted by our minister to Corea. The original report came from Nashville, where the lady was well known, being a resident of Jonesboro, East Tennessee, until her marriage, about three years ago. It was alleged that Mrs. Heron had been instrumental in the conversion of a nobleman who is close to the throne of Corea. He at once began preaching, whereupon the emperor, instead of punishing him, threw Mrs. Heron into prison and finally passed sentence of death upon her. The story was discredited by the officers of the board under which Mrs. Heron worked, and was pronounced ridiculous by Dr. R. H. Allen, secretary of the Corean legation at Washington. He declared that the Coreans would never do anything of the kind, and added the important fact that Mrs. Heron is not a missionary, but only a missionary's wife. Nevertheless, the matter was deemed of sufficient importance to justify sending a cable dispatch to our minister, with the agreeable result already mentioned.

The Wool Problem.

"It is marvelous with what degree of self-assurance the advocates of the wool tariff go blundering along, serenely indifferent as to the contradictions and inconsistencies of their arguments." With this edifying remark, the immaculate *Springfield Republican* returns to the "wool problem," which, in its conception, seems to consist in devising ways for pulling the fleece over the eyes of the American people. After reading the New York *Press* and *Tribune* a severe lecture for their "impudent shuffling of reason and conscience" in their discussions of the tariff question in its bearing upon the wool industry, the *Republican* "gets up into Vermont," where it finds less of moral obliquity, but "more of honest ignorance [sic] as to the common facts covering the question." What puzzles the "honest" but "ignorant" Vermont mind is not the "common," but the very uncommon "facts" which the *Republican* daily coins to meet the varying exigencies of its conflict with the forces of reason and the merciless logic of the indisputable facts of tariff history. Of its statement as to the number of sheep in 1867 in the eight states it named and our challenge of its accuracy, the *Republican* says: "The WATCHMAN innocently assumes the contrary of what we proved and deducts all its conclusions from this assumption." All this has a wise sound and smacks of "logic," but what the *Republican* "proved"? That in eight states it named there were, in 1867, 29,879,222 sheep, and that as a consequence of the tariff of that year the number shrunk to 15,000,000 in 1870 and had fallen to 12,850,000 in 1887. And what is its "proof" that in 1867 New York, Pennsylvania, Ohio, Indiana, Illinois, Michigan, Iowa and Wisconsin had nearly thirty million sheep? Its own unsupported statement. The WATCHMAN "assumed"

nothing. It took the figures of the government report, the highest authority on the matters in question. The *Republican* insists that its dictum shall be the proof of its statements, and having retreated to the seclusion of its "hole" pulls in the orifice by declining "to further instruct primer classes in the A B C's of the great wool problem." To enlighten the public is one important function of true journalism, and if people are "ignorant" and hungering for knowledge the faithful instructor will patiently feed them. When it has undisputed facts the *Republican* has shown an eager willingness to instruct even "primer classes." In respect of "the wool problem," we have a lurking suspicion that it should take a course in some well-regulated kindergarten before it assumes to decline a task for which it seems to lack the primary qualifications.

But it is of trifling importance whether or not the *Republican* has exaggerated the facts in respect of the number of sheep in the eight states named at the time of the adoption of the high wool tariff. The real question is the effect the tariff had on wool production. The *Republican* claims that it did not protect wool-growing, and in proof of its claim maintains that in certain states, right after the adoption of the tariff of 1867, sheep "went down like grass before a prairie fire." In Ohio, it says, according to the article of George William Bond, in the government's special report on wool, there was a loss of some three million between 1868 and 1870. In its use of the facts and phases of the wool problem between 1867 and 1870 the *Republican* displays the moral obliquity that has characterized its whole treatment of this question. By suppressing certain facts and distorting others it makes out a plausible case. What is the testimony of its own witness, Mr. Bond, as to the facts of the wool industry during the period in question? Writing of the effect of the proposed tariff of 1866, he says:

"Confident of the passage of the tariff introduced in 1866, and which had been passed by the house of representatives, the farmers of the country increased their flocks, especially beyond the Mississippi, and the growth of wool rapidly increased in the expectation of a great rise in prices consequent upon the high rates of duty imposed. In this they were disappointed, for others as well as themselves anticipated improved values of wool, and both manufacturers and speculators had sent orders abroad. The long delay between the inception of the bill and its final passage resulted in large importations under the old tariff. Consequently when the tariff actually went into operation the market was overstocked. In addition to this, large quantities of army clothing, accumulated during the war, were thrown upon the market at exceedingly low prices and added to the dullness of the demand for work from the manufacturer. * * * The depression of the wool market continued until 1871, when the production had fallen off 30,000,000 pounds since 1868. The surplus wools, which had weighed upon the market, had now been consumed, the manufacturing business, which had been dull and unprofitable, had now greatly improved, and the manufacturers looked forward to a season of great prosperity."

Comment can hardly increase the force of Mr. Bond's statement of outside facts that bore upon the wool problem at and immediately after the passage of the tariff act of 1867, the consequences of which the *Republican* disingenuously attributes to the act itself. The immediate favorable effects of the act were discounted by "large importations under the old tariff," made during "the long delay between the inception of the bill and its final passage," so that "when the tariff actually went into operation the market was overstocked." The dullness of the wool market was further aggravated by the government sale of large quantities of army clothing accumulated during the war. Mr. Bond says the wool clip for the entire country fell off 30,000,000 pounds in the three years between 1868 and 1871. The average weight of fleece at that time is stated at three and one-half pounds. That would indicate, in its worst aspect, that the diminution in the flocks for the entire country did not exceed eight and one-half millions, whereas the *Republican* would have us believe it was fifteen millions in only eight states. The probability is that there was not so great a shrinkage in the wool crop and no such destruction of sheep. Wool was naturally hoarded by reason of the low prices that prevailed between 1868 and 1870, and the figures for that period, which are only estimates, necessarily lack that trustworthiness that attaches to times when a fair price brings the bulk of the product into market. The very rapid increase of the wool product between 1871 and 1873, when the price had advanced twenty cents a pound, strengthens this view of the matter.

But the real effects of the tariff of 1867 on wool production can not be accurately judged by the statistics of a single state or group of states, or a single year or period of years, or during the existence of unusual conditions, like those described above by Mr. Bond. The number of sheep in any given state varied from year to year with fluctuating local conditions, but in the country at large there was an enormous gain in sheep and wool after

the passage of the tariff bill in 1867. These gains are thus stated in the government special report on wool:

"The increase in the number of sheep from 1810 to 1860 was only a little over one hundred per cent, and the increase in wool-clip was about three hundred fifty per cent during the same period of fifty years, while for the next twenty-five years, from 1860 to 1885, the increase was greater than for the former period of fifty years—viz., over one hundred forty per cent in number of sheep and over three hundred seventy-five per cent in wool-clip. In 1870 the number of sheep was 28,477,951 and the wool-clip 100,102,387 pounds. The most rapid increase ever attained in this country began in 1869 and continued till 1884, both in number of sheep and weight of clip. Since 1884 there has been an annual decrease in the number of sheep and an annual decrease in the wool-clip."

This is the sober testimony of non-partisan government experts. The increase noted above was concurrent with the passage and existence of "an adequately protective tariff" (the *Republican* sneers at this phrase), and the decrease began with the repeal of that tariff, and has steadily continued since that repeal. Cause and effect were never more closely allied. The simple facts presented by the government's statistics constitute "the A B C's of the great wool problem." The people have learned them and enough of the more complex elements of the question to lead them to distrust and discard false teachers of the *Republican* stripe.

Press Notes.

THE noble red men are too much for General Crook. They appear to suspect him of general crookedness.—*Boston Herald*.

THERE is an earnest wish in some quarters that the burdensome lead trust might be tied around its own neck and thrown into the sea.—*Philadelphia Press*.

THE *Philadelphia Times* suggests ex-Secretary Bayard for governor of Delaware. It is a small office, but would just about fit Bayard. He is not likely to get it, however.—*Albany Express*.

Governor Hill is thinking about calling an extra session of the New York legislature. Does he want a chance to veto another ballot reform bill, and can't he wait?—*Wheeling Intelligencer*.

PROHIBITION in Kansas is not settled, and never will be until the 154,000 voters who have never voted upon it are given a chance to express their opinions.—*Kansas City Times (Democratic)*.

MEMBERS of the democratic national committee who are talking confidently about their prospects of carrying North Dakota apparently forget that there is no Mormon vote in the new state to assist them.—*Boston Journal*.

ENGLAND'S working-men never become capitalists, but there are tens of thousands of American capitalists who were once common laborers in this country.—*Detroit Tribune*.

WANTED—A preacher who can preach in the presence of the president of the United States without dropping into politics and giving the president special advice. Good manners are not amiss in the pulpit.—*Wheeling Intelligencer*.

THE free-trade professors, who have been unhappy ever since Robert P. Porter was given charge of the census bureau, will probably be considerably mollified when they learn that Mr. Porter intends to consult them in reference to the scope of his inquiries.—*Boston Journal*.

We have always been led to believe that the anarchists of this country are an impoverished lot of people who know nothing of the ease and comfort with which the rich are blessed, but now that they have sat down upon Herr Most we think they have demonstrated that they know the luxury of an al-cushion.—*Washington Post*.

We have the best authority for saying that the hay crop of New England this year will not only be enormous, but will be by far the largest that has ever been cut. But while the bulk of the grass product is unprecedented, its quality is by no means all that could be hoped for. Good judges pronounce the hay deficient in nutritive properties.—*Boston Transcript*.

It will surprise most people to learn that the Icelanders are numerous enough in this country and Canada to maintain a distinct and vigorous religious organization of their own. It is called the Icelandic Lutheran Church of America, consists of twenty-two congregations, and has just held its fifth annual conference at Argyle, in Manitoba.—*New York Sun*.

THAT mugwump paper (the *Springfield Republican*) which cackles for reform like a soured old maid at a tea fight is highly elated over the prospect that the prohibitionists are to throw their strength against the republican party, which sincerely desires honest regulation of the liquor traffic, instead of fighting the democrats, who are hopelessly in the grasp of the liquor interest. This presents a fine example of the teachings of modern reformers.—*Albany Express*.

It is useless to talk about a third party. It is unmanly to give up all temperance work and declare that the country is going to the dogs just because several states have pronounced against prohibition. The thing to do is to get to work in a more reasonable way to mold a strong public opinion in favor of temperance and secure such restrictive legislation as will not vex and oppress good citizens. On this line the temperance people of the country will in future fight their battles, and they will win.—*Atlanta Constitution (Democratic)*.

DEMOCRATIC friend and brother, don't whine if you are removed from office by a republican administration, and especially don't plead the baby act and claim protection under the civil service law. It is a sham. There's no protection in it. It was never intended there should be. The democrats never

found any trouble in making vacancies. * * * Be prepared to take the medicine that you would deal out yourself if you were in power. When the kick comes, gather yourself up, apply the arnica where you are most bruised, and join a democratic campaign club, but don't whine.—*Washington Post*.

WORLD'S fairs are big undertakings as they are managed now. The Philadelphia exposition in 1876 received an appropriation of \$1,500,000 from the city of Philadelphia, \$1,000,000 from the state of Pennsylvania, and a loan of \$1,000,000 from the general government, beside a guarantee fund of about \$2,500,000 from individuals. About \$5,000,000 of this sum were spent on the buildings and the remainder on the grounds. The general expense account was a trifle under \$2,000,000, while the total receipts were \$5,000,000, which, with the buildings and other direct profits to Philadelphia, more than paid the expenses, to say nothing of the immense profits gained by individuals in trade there.—*Boston Herald*.

Wrongs of Taxation.

Editor of Watchman:—I would like a short space in your paper to point out some of the wrongs of the present system of taxation. If Vermont contained fifty thousand men and each one of those men were worth one thousand dollars, and no more, the whole fifty thousand men would be worth fifty million dollars. Now if there were one rich man in Vermont worth fifty million dollars, the whole state would be worth one hundred million dollars. Who would protect that one hundred million dollars? The rich man owns half of the hundred million dollars, and therefore he ought to do half of the protecting, or else he ought to pay a good deal more than half the taxes. But the fifty thousand men would do all of the protecting; they would pay just as big a tax on their fifty million dollars as the rich man would pay on his fifty millions, and they would pay on fifty thousand polls besides. It may be said that I have supposed a case that does not exist, and can never exist, and therefore there is nothing to it. Let us suppose a case that does actually exist. There are, at least, a few in Vermont, more than one thousand dollars, and no more than that, and there is one man in Vermont worth fifty thousand dollars. Now have a case exactly like the other, only on a smaller scale. If Vermont protects one thousand dollars worth of property, taxing it at all, and protects one hundred thousand dollars for B, without taxing it at all, she does one hundred times as much for B as she does for A. And if Vermont protects one thousand dollars worth of property, and taxes it only one per cent, and protects one hundred thousand dollars for B, and taxes it only one per cent, she also does as much for B as she does for a hundred like A. Ought not Vermont to do as much for the poor man as she does for the rich? Let us look at it another way. A poor man, with just a little cottage home, a cow, ten sheep and a horse—the whole valued at one thousand dollars—can protect his own little home without any much of any kind from the government, for the robber would not think that the booty would be worth the danger of attacking such a home. But it is not so with the rich—thieves and robbers are continually watching the rich. A poor man can do more towards protecting his thousand dollars than a rich man can do towards protecting each one of his thousand dollars, and for that reason he ought not to pay as big a tax on his one thousand dollars as the rich man pays on each one of his thousand dollars. WILLIAM PARKER, Waitsfield, Vt.

A Great Railroad.

Not long ago Mr. George H. Daniels, the general passenger agent of the New York Central & Hudson River railroad, in extending an invitation to foreigners to visit this country, directed their attention to the fact that the United States of America is the greatest country on earth, peopled with sixty millions of the most civilized and enterprising people on the globe; that the New York Central railroad is the greatest railroad on earth—the only four-track road in the world; that it started from the largest city on the continent, passed through the richest and most prosperous region, touching the largest cities in the interior; is the great trunk line and direct route to that great natural harbor, New York City, and that in all respects it reveals more of the resources and riches of America in less time, with more safety and under more luxurious conditions, than any other route. There is much in the above not only for foreigners who want to see this country under favorable conditions, but for our own restless and moving people. The New York Central & Hudson River railroad is the outgrowth of a luxurious and prosperous civilization, and one of its greatest engineering triumphs. As is well known, it is the only line from the West to New York that lands its passengers in that city without ferrying them across the river. Its spacious and magnificent station in the heart of the city has been for years not only the pride of New York, but a lasting monument to the foresighted liberality and enterprise of that great organizer and founder of the New York Central & Hudson River railroad system, Commodore Vanderbilt. The limited trains of this line have been the means of the traveling public are only known and appreciated by the large portion of it who have been over the line and enjoyed them.—*Detroit Free Press*.

Literary Notes.

THE August Century will contain a "symposium" on wood-engraving, including a number of papers written and illustrated by a group of well-known engravers. The articles are, "Wood-engraving in Camp," by Frank French; "Originality in Wood-engraving," by Elbridge Kingsley; "Painter-engraving," by W. B. Closson; and "The New School of Engraving," by John P. Davis. Fourteen illustrations of unusual interest are contributed to the series.

Is the August *Wide-Awake* Andrew Lang humorously and practically relates his experience. "Fishing in Tweed and Yarrow." Louise Ingersoll Guinly, a famous author, writes on "Islet and Olive." Risley Seward tells a real fairy tale of how she and Secretary Seward in one short day saw sights and visited with Laboulaye, and were with Thiers in the first hours of his presidency, and making "Wild-Flower Books" for holiday gift-giving.

Is the August *Century* Dr. S. W. Mitchell, the well-known physician and author of Philadelphia, contributes an article on "The Poison of Serpents," richly illustrated by J. Carter Beatty. Professor David P. Todd of Amherst College writes on "How Man's Messenger Outran the Moon," describing a feat in telegraphy which was accomplished at the time of the eclipse of the moon which took place January 1, 1888. Mr. Joseph Pennell and Mrs. Elizabeth Robins Pennell have respectively illustrated and written an article describing a rowing trip down the Thames river from Oxford to Richmond. The article, which is called "The Stream of Pleasure," is illustrated with thirty-three of Mr. Pennell's pictures, most of them small wood engravings. Joel Chandler Harris has written a new novel, "The Old Bascom Place," which will be completed in three installments. It is a "reconstruction" story, and is said to be in Mr. Harris' most delightful vein. The Century Company will shortly bring out, as a holiday book for young folks, "Daddy Jake, the Runaway, and Other Stories," by Joel Chandler Harris, illustrated by Remble.

THE largest watermelon patch in the world is at Adams Park, Ga. It embraces 800 acres and is expected to produce over 400 carloads of melons.

Brie-a-Brac.

FRAGMENT a string of beauties
Up on the North Fork today.
The finest trout that were e'er pulled out—
But the biggest one got away.
And down in the mill-pond meadow
The boys that were making hay—
With forks and rakes killed 3,000 snakes—
But the biggest one got away.

And so I have heard of liars
Since Ananias' day;
There are just a few that receive their dues—
But the biggest one gets away!—Puck.

The average man is apt to be the next thing to a fool when he gets beside himself.—*Baltimore American*.

"You're just too strong for anything!" exclaimed Jakey to John L., removing the latter's hat from his eyes.—*Holt Mail*.

The postmaster of Sweetwater, Wyoming, has been suspended. The vigilance committee did it with a rope.—*Boston Herald*.

The near-sighted hen that swallowed a bee was not long in concluding that hers was a peck of trouble.—*Washington Republican*.

"Go to the ant, thou slugger," says the *Chicago Herald*. It might have added that Heaven notes the sparrow's fall.—*Cincinnati Enquirer*.

The *Springfield Republican* speaks of the English sparrow "in our midst." That's a good place for him after he is well cooked.—*Boston Herald*.

"It seems very odd," says Spatterkins, who is a most disagreeable man, "that the first apple was eaten by this first pair!"—*New York Herald*.

A HEAD-LINE in a paper reads: "Chicago vs. Philadelphia. Is this a new way of referring to 'The Quick and the Dead'?"—*Southern Journal*.

The trouble with most of the mothers who are trying to make Little Lord Fauntleroy of their boys is that they begin on the outside.—*Louisville Journal*.

"What shall I call my play?" asked the man who had stolen one from the French; and his friend advised him to call it *Ellah*, because it was translated.—*Texas Sifter*.

It is the fashionable thing now to name your girl baby Marguerite. Plain Margaret won't do at all—not at all, until she grows up and marries and is compelled to do her own washing.—*Chicago Times*.

Our farmers thought sweeps into us as we contemplate Chicago's disposition to annex the earth. If she should do this, where could her citizens go to keep up their habit of being extrajudicial?—*Washington Post*.

DELICIOUS SCHREIBER: "I don't like the *Springfield Republican* as I used to. I think the paper is far from good, so kind of a dry." "I don't see how it can be dry. There is considerable dew on your nose."—*Pittsburgh Post*.

"I HAVE met this man," said a great lawyer, the other day, "in a great many places where I would be ashamed to be seen." And for a number of years he would understand why everybody laughed so uproariously.

ELLA: "Where will you pass the summer?" "Are you going into the country?" Bella: "I don't know. I'm sure. Papa said something about going into the country, and if he says so I suppose we shall have to go there."—*Boston Herald*.

In the stories published in some of the newspapers of Western New York be correct the crop of apples in that section will be so light this year that William Tell, if still in the flesh, would find it difficult to appear in his great character.—*New York Tribune*.

"I SEE," remarked Mrs. Snuggs, "that there is talk of the Pope's moving to Spain." "Yes," replied Snuggs, "but it would be more appropriate for him to go to Palestine." "Why?" asked Mrs. Snuggs. "He should be near the Holy Land."—*Pittsburgh Chronicle*.

Down in Cuthbert, the other day, a rattlesnake frightened a cat that scared a hen that knocked a jar from a shelf, which hit the face of a baby of two years, who, when turned the face, causing the loss of a barrel of syrup. The snake was killed.—*Atlanta Constitution*.

He had declared his passion and was feverishly awaiting her reply. "Mr. Samson," she said, and her voice sounded like a knell, "the letter which you so kindly offered to post for me two weeks ago to-night has never reached its destination. Farewell."—*Harpers Bazar*.

A METHOD of distinguishing the mushroom from the poisonous toadstool is said to be by sprinkling salt on the underside. If it turns blue, it is good; if green, it is poisonous. Well, that's better than the eating test, when if you die it is toadstool and if you live mushroom.—*New York Herald*.

The proprietor of a well-known patent medicine lately received the following letter: "Dear Sir:—A couple of months ago my wife was hardly able to speak. She took two bottles of your vital Regenerator, and now she can not speak at all. Please send me two more bottles of your valuable mixture."—*San Francisco Argonaut*.

DR. BURNETT closely oversees his children's reading. Lionel, a keen boy, sprang by a visitor if he had read "The Pretty Sister of Jose" (his mother's recent story), and he said: "No, papa has not had time to look through it yet, and he doesn't want me to get in the habit of reading stories except as you give me one."

OUTRAGED. "Gentlemen, I want to ask them Americans was thing. Who does the canals in the country but farmers? Who built the railroads in the country but farmers? Who works the mines in the country but farmers? Who does the plowing in the country but farmers? And who the devil discovered the country but farmers?"—*Life*.

THE editor of a religious weekly—the *Christian Union*—says that "getting a burr off a piece of woolen cloth is a simple matter compared with getting a stupid or incompetent professor out of a college chair." Has our religious contemporary ever tried placing a bent pin on the stupid professor's chair? In removing any kind of a live professor from a chair the bent pin is warranted to "go right to the spot."—*Norfolk Herald*.

CHICAGO POLICEMAN: "Shop! Ye Dootch spalpane, Ol saw ye wid me own eyes nupaherin' that naan wid an axe, an ye've got the bloody ax in y'r hand yit." Fleeing stranger (sopping): "Sure, now, it's 'self on me, for know Ol me Dootchman. Ol was only removing a traitor." Chicago Policeman: "Well, I must do me dooty. Be away wid ye as fast as yer legs can carry ye, but have the ax. I must have that far a clue."—*Puck*.

Once in awhile you will find an ideal editor who opens his big heart and takes the entire solar system into his confidence. The gentleman who drives scissors and quill for the *Dexter Sentinel* is of this noble breed of patriots. He says: "Ye editor was married yestarday to Miss Mary Soltell, one of the most charming ladies we have ever met. Those owing us on subscriptions or job work will greatly facilitate the purchase of rag carpets, cord-wood, baby-carriages, etc., by settling at once."—*New York Herald*.

The dandelion shirt has been making a triumphal progress this summer, but still it is not universally popular. A writer in the *Rochester Herald* says, concerning it: "When it is brought home the proud husband and father don't it and goes forth to defy the sweetening heat of a July day. The next week it is washed, and then it is just about the size for the twelve-year-old son. Another week rolls round, and it is just a fit for the baby. The fourth week it descends to Betsy's doll, and the fifth week vanishes altogether—disappearing mysteriously. It was seen to go into the wash-tub, but that was the last of it."—*New York Tribune*.

THE Indiana legislature, at its last session, authorized a loan of \$3,000,000 for the purpose of refunding the school fund loan. In consequence of bungling in the preparation of the act, it has been discovered that the state will lose instead of gaining \$117,000 annually by the transaction.